

Dublin May 16. 1858.

Dear Lucia Weston - I had a letter from Paris today saying that the whole Roman tribe were expectant the following day & that the French tribe ~~parties~~ were in a state of delighted expectation. So shall I try, if I will write them, for what a more delicious than a review of two pleasant parties who reign in one another. This looks as if I were praising myself, but you know I only speak of as a spectator. Who would not like to stand by where all the stars lay together?

I wish you would tell the handsome child's mother to consult with the gentleman about sending me that youth to me as soon as possible. He should be here by the 20th at latest or earliest if possible that I may have him washed & dressed & ready for presentation to the old gentleman who is to decide upon his future. This admits of no delay.

You have no occasion whatever to apologize when writing to me. Every letter goes much to the augmentation of the records, when it goes beyond the digest details of facts. However. I am often annoyed when told of my friend last "pleasant" or "satisfactory" or "interesting" letter, when I can only remember that I felt as dry there as a stick which

perusing it. When I was in Rome I learned
to regard you far more as a less relative
than as one whom I had only heard of till
then. Now I sympathize in all that concerns
you as if you had been born to me when you
were a baby. Perhaps it is because I am
dark & impulsive that I have always been
disposed to regard the kindred I regard so
others with prompt affection - but whether this
be foolish & a defect, or not as the English you
apt to regard it, ^{is} a fact, and accordingly
I have no difficulty in looking into your
varied gallery and seeing you there along
with the white Roman tribes and thinking of
your numerous acts of kindness, which are as
the most delightful as much as others - as
other family who could have gratified me
so much by conferring them.

I wish to record to do my utmost for the youth
when he comes but meantime I will let him
if time shall permit and see him before he is
sent on, though he may be provided as ~~such~~ as
possible with a presentable English suit of clothes.
His substantial qualities I cannot doubt, but
you know how much depends on appearance
If you did not put the letter away for some
short time before you left Rome, this was
due to the death of a dear old friend &
schoolfellow, my only London acquaintance,
Mr O'Keeffe - he used to forward it, this illness &
death may have stopped the paper. If you wish

for it for the Standard Papers in Paris, but
you know from what have them. I had a
long & pleasant letter from Mr Chapman
lately, full of good cheer & another from
Miss McKim which last you shall see in
the Advocate.

I am just now making selections from
Stirling's "Letters from the Slave States", one of the
best (that is, the most well informed & Anti-Slavery)
books of travel I have yet seen from the pen of
an English (he is a Scotch) traveller. I like to be
able to show their moderation of a more intelligent
than simply sentimental party of opinion on this
subject in Great Britain.

I am sincerely & deeply sorry that poor Emma
continues so fearfully affected with the Stilophotitis.
It is the more lamentable as she has health, good
spirits, fine fingers including a thumb on each hand,
& is really quite passably gifted with talent &
fluency. It is a great mystery!

With my best wishes for all the rest of your
tribe (including even this unhappy affected) I
am Your ever truly

Ruth D Webb

You will please let the message with as little
delay as possible

I have taken the Shakespeariana from Miss Estlin, have bought a few books than fit many good Norman slides & there are some because fit. I would like to know at any time after your lecture whether good slides are to be had in Paris whether any publisher has a list of them & how they are sold. Probably they may be as good and as cheap in London if a body knew where to find them.

Miss Estlin has lately been spending three weeks with me in Dublin and we Miss Vaughan was with her slides at the same time. She enjoyed her visit very much and so did we.